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17 October 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Graham

THROUGH :

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SUBJECT : Management Committee Agenda Item (MCA-66) - NPIC
Procurement of Multiprocessor

1. Problem. To recommend a position for D/DCI/IC on MCA-66. The proposal is that NPIC lease system to upgrade its present equipment. The enhanced capability is to serve NPIC in the 1975-80 period, and to handle the problem. The proposal involves some design preliminaries starting this fall, equipment leasing in April 1975, and change-over completed in August 1978.

2. The NPIC Operational Concept includes an interactive ADP system that will support up to connected terminals, provide a 10-second response for critical functions, and provide 96% availability of the computer system, i.e., 23 of 24 hours per day, 7 days a week. The system is to support multiple, linked data bases, including the files in the National Base of Imagery Derived Information (NBIDI), some of which are accessible to the intelligence community via COINS.

3. CIA Positions. on behalf of OJCS, agrees with the NPIC recommendation on the as Chairman, Information Processing Board, also approves. They both ask for a statement of further justification for terminals, citing security and logistics problems, and they question the need for dual processors, which NPIC's Plan says are needed to achieve the 96% availability. They request further reporting on these points.

4. Proposed D/DCI/IC Position.

a. Support NPIC Plan to procure UNIVAC 1110. It is not practicable to call upon the community and DOD to agree to standardize on computer hardware. DOD is attempting to standardize on Honeywell for WWMCCS and IDHS;

Compatibility in a communications network between computers can be achieved through the addition of interface equipment. This is the route COINS is taking.

b. Request Management Committee to instruct that NPIC should have discussions with COINS people, addressing the technical question of the specifications of the interface equipment that COINS should use to be able to accommodate the

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25X1 c. Request Management Committee to instruct NPIC to elaborate
25X1 on proposal for [] computer terminals -- i.e., support []
[] recommendation for additional data. The particular interest of
D/DCI/IC relates to details of planning for that portion of those
terminals (believed to be 50 - 100) that may be located in State, DIA
and NSA. What impact does this have on the planned development of
the COINS communication network? Are NPIC and COINS planning harmonious?

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d. Record with the Management Committee the continuing in-
terest of D/DCI/IC and the availability of the Intelligence Information
Handling Committee (IHC) to serve as focal point for interrelating Agency
and Community interests.

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Attachment - Detailed Staff Study

Acting Chairman
IHC

Distribution:

#1 - General Graham

#2 - []

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SUBJECT: Management Committee Agenda Item (MCA-66) - NPIC Procurement of
[redacted] Multiprocessor System

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1. PROBLEM:

To recommend a position for D/DCI/IC to take in the Management Committee on Item MCA-66.

The question is whether or not to support the NPIC proposal to upgrade its present [redacted] equipment, by replacing it with a leased [redacted] system. This plan for ADP support is based on NPIC projections as to how the Center will operate in the years 1975-1980. The proposal is to upgrade in phases, commencing with some design preliminaries in the fall of 1973, leading to equipment leasing in April 1975, and completion of the transition by August 1978.

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The aspect of particular interest to IC Staff is the impact of this proposal on the intelligence community, particularly the issue of compatibility of equipment among agencies.

2. BACKGROUND

a. NPIC's Explicit Planning Assumptions. In developing its analysis of computer alternatives, NPIC included the following among its assumptions:

(1) "NPIC will continue to be the repository for the information contained in certain of the National Base of Imagery Derived Information Files and ... this information must be available to the intelligence community." (NPIC Plan, p. 1)

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b. NPIC's ADP Operational Concept.

(1) "Our conceptual design is general, flexible and expansible. It is modular and open-ended so that we can accommodate changes with minimal cost and effort. The central computer facility must be located [redacted] and must support users who are located elsewhere. Support to these external users will be provided via terminals connected through communication lines and via delivery of magnetic tapes." (NPIC Plan, p. 2)

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(2) "Our concept is based on a major premise: support to the exploitation process must be independent of the collection system. In other words, any ADP support capability that is available for the exploitation of imagery from one collection system should be available for all collection systems."

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(3) "In addition to providing direct support to imagery interpreters, we must support other users of our information such as substantive analysts. For this support the key element is that the information be in the form which is most suitable to their needs. We anticipate an increasing emphasis on information networks; therefore, we plan to provide support to a community-wide network(s) in the 1975-1980 time frame." (NPIC Plan, p. 3)

(4) "Another design goal is to provide an interactive ADP system so that a user can have access (within security limits) to information whenever he needs it. In order to provide this capability, we plan to:

" -- support up to 500 connected terminals

" -- provide a 10-second response for critical functions, and

" -- provide 96% availability of the computer system, i.e.,
23 of 24 hours per day, 7 days a week.

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g. OPPB Review of NPIC Plan (Chmn, Information Processing Board memo, 1 October 73)

25X1 (1) [] rates, relative to the points raised [] 25X1
 25X1 "On balance, I feel that compatibility with the Headquarters
 25X1 [] systems should not be the determiner and that the NPIC plan to
 25X1 upgrade the [] system should be endorsed."

(2) "I do agree that the points made [] should 25X1
 be pursued by NPIC, and recommend that approval of dual processor
 1110s be contingent upon further defense."

25X1 (3) [] raises a question as to the legality of direct
 CIA procurement of ADP equipment, in possible conflict with respon-
 sibility assigned to GSA and procedures specified by existing statute.
 (This issue is within the purview of OL, OGC and OJCS, and is not
 discussed further herein.)

h. NPIC Elaboration on Terminal Planning. I have queried D/NPIC and the
 Chief, Automated Information Division, PSG/NPIC on their [] terminal propo- 25X1
 sal. I am told that much of this equipment is to be located [] 25X1
 the P.F., and CIA Headquarters building, but that some 50-100 of this total
 are unofficially earmarked, for planning purposes, for installation in other
 agencies, including State, DIA and NSA. Precise plans have not been made
 for the tie-in of those terminals.

i. NPIC Elaboration on Other Agency Views re NPIC Proposal for [] 25X1
 I understand that during the protracted period of NPIC's planning, resulting in
 the specific proposal for the [] there have been continuing contacts
 with external agencies, at which aspects of this plan have been discussed, par-
 ticularly with the people in DIA working on their own IDHS communication prob-
 lem [] No official suggestions or alternative proposals have been re-
 ceived, although none were specifically solicited. D/NPIC has commented to me
 that NPIC's present need is to arrive at specific conclusions that could be
 implemented in a time-phased official plan. On the other hand, other agencies
 are somewhat behind NPIC in specific planning for information handling, and it
 appears that they have not been in a position, practically speaking, to propose
 specific alternatives.

j. Compatibility of Computers in the Intelligence Community and DOD

(1) Our unofficial survey of main-line computer systems used or planned
 for key military and intelligence installations shows the following:

| | | | | |
|------|------------------|---|-----|------|
| 25X1 | CIA Headquarters | - | [] | 25X1 |
| 25X1 | NPIC [] | - | | |
| | [] | - | | |
| | State | - | | |
| | NSA | - | | |
| | JCS, NMCC | - | | |
| | DIA, NMIC | - | | |
| | SAC, Offutt AFB | - | | |
| | NORAD | - | | |
| | CINCLANTFLT | - | | |
| | PACOM | - | | |
| | CONAD | - | | |

(2) DOD has selected Honeywell processors for the World Wide Military
 Command and Control System (WWMCCS) computer buy, as well as for some Intelli-
 gence Data Handling Systems (IDHS) installations.

(a) The IDHS Communications network is the system needed to
 internet the DIA, the U&S Commands, and the other intelligence
 components of the Military Departments. The IDHS Communications
 centers are to be internetted by a system capable of supporting
 bulk data transmissions, remote batch and interactive (conversa-
 tional) operation.

(b) The IDHS Communications network will interconnect indi-
 cations and warning centers and IDHS production sites while pro-

viding for selected interfaces to the WWMCCS. IDHS Communications will remain fully compatible with COINS, which provides an inter-connect capability between the pertinent intelligence community information storage and retrieval systems and networks.

k. The Community On-Line Intelligence System (COINS).

(1) An ASD(I) proposal is now tabled in IRAC, for discussion at the IRAC meeting in late October 1973, relative to upgrading COINS as a communication network.

(2) This proposal accepts implicitly the impracticability of achieving total compatibility among Defense and non-Defense agencies on their main-line computer hardware.

(3) The plan for upgrading the COINS communication network treats communication between "host" computers as a function of the network equipment, relieving the host computers of this burden. This is achieved by configuring the network with mini-computers called variously Interface Message Processors (IMPs), Terminal Interface Processors (TIPs), or Interactive Analyst Stations (IASs). These mini-computers are connected by high speed digital lines.

(4) The COINS upgrading plan calls for DOD to fund all FY-74 and FY-75 costs for the proposed COINS communication network, including the IMPS or TIPs at all required locations. Individual agencies -- in this case NPIC -- are to provide the space and facilities for the installation of their IMP or TIP, the personnel to operate their local IMP or TIP, and the software required to interface their respective host computers to their IMP or TIP.

3. DISCUSSION

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| <u>Month</u> | <u>Number COINS Inquiries on NPIC</u> |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| May 73 | 140 |
| June 73 | 758 |
| July 73 | 1,394 |
| August 73 | 1,471 (Total COINS queries = 3,856) |

In other words, from 0 percent before May 73, queries on NPIC files now account for some 37% of all inquiries on COINS, and the number will continue to rise.

b. The technical proposal by NPIC for the [] system has been carefully studied by NPIC's highly qualified staff. It has been endorsed by Agency review authorities []. The non-compatibility between NPIC's and CIA's headquarters computers are considered acceptable by those review authorities. This hardware selection is primarily a CIA management issue, not primarily an IC issue.

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c. The intelligence community and DOD are not homogeneous with respect to their computer hardware, and there seems little practical likelihood that compatibility in those equipments can be achieved.

d. The COINS communication network plan, sponsored by ASD(I) and now pending in IRAC, accepts this non-compatibility and proposes a plan for interface equipment to overcome the difficulty.

e. Using this interface equipment, it appears reasonable to assume that the [] system at NPIC, if approved, would not represent a major new problem in information handling throughout the community.

(1) It appears desirable for NPIC and COINS technical people to work together to insure that the COINS interface equipment matches the NPIC Plan.

(2) In this COINS-NPIC context, it is possible that at some

point in the NPIC computer upgrading, a "super-IMP" may be required.

(3) It does not appear that the need for these discussions is a reason at this time to suggest the NPIC [] proposal be re-considered or delayed.

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f. The need for some [] terminals has been questioned, and CIA review authorities have recommended that NPIC provide further details and justification. IC Staff shares this interest, with particular reference to more specific details relative to: (i) specifics on plans for terminals in outside agencies and the communications net for those terminals, and (ii) the possible impact on COINS of this terminal plan. The question raised as to the logistics and security problems incurred in installing and operating this number of terminals is primarily an Agency matter, not an IC matter.

g. The question raised relative to the need for dual processors is primarily an Agency matter, not an IC matter.

h. The question raised relative to the procurement authority of CIA versus GSA is an Agency matter, not an IC matter.

4. CONCLUSIONS

a. The NPIC Plan to procure the [] system should be supported by D/DCI/IC.

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b. The problem of coordinating a community intelligence information handling system and making it work effectively is not made more difficult by the choice by NPIC of the [] system.

c. There are technical matters relating to the interface of the proposed [] equipment and the proposed COINS IMP to be located at NPIC. These matters should be addressed jointly by COINS and NPIC technicians. These matters are not a basis for not concurring with the NPIC proposal.

d. There may be an impact on COINS by virtue of the proposal for some [] terminals, some outside of CIA and located in State, DIA and NSA. This should be studied by COINS and NPIC technical people. This does not provide a basis for not concurring with the NPIC proposal.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

a. That D/DCI/IC concur in the NPIC Plan for the procurement of the []

b. That D/DCI/IC request that discussions be had between NPIC and COINS personnel, reporting the results thereof to Agency management, D/DCI/IC, and COINS management authorities.

c. That the IC Staff point of contact for further action on this item continue to be the Acting Chairman, IHC.

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Acting Chairman
IHC